

March 9, 2000

Spencer Shephard
National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
116 New Montgomery Street, Suite 203
San Francisco, CA 94105

Subject: Franks Tract SRA
Revised Project Description
Request for Change Order
M&N File No. 4353-01

Dear Mr. Shephard:

We understand that the local residents and harbor tenants want a revision (October 12, 1999 public meeting) for the project at Franks Tract SRA to include a recreational component. In order to accomplish this, the finished crest elevations of one or two of the islands would be raised to provide recreational uses.

The status of the current project includes the following:

- Completion of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND). The document for the current project has been circulated to the agencies and the public for comments and has been prepared for final submittal to the State Clearinghouse for certification.
- Construction Documents. The construction documents have been completed to a 60% completion level and submitted to CALFED. Design included numerical modeling of the project to evaluate the effects of the islands to tidal hydraulics, development of design details for the groin structure, preparation of plans and technical specifications. A basis of design document was also prepared for the project.

In order to revise the above documents to incorporate a change in project description, we are submitting this request for authorization of additional services for the subject project. A detailed scope of work, and an estimate of the funds required to complete the additional work is outlined below.

ENVIRONMENTAL

- 1.01 Revise Project Description, Goals and Objectives. The project description, goals and objectives will be revised to reflect the input obtained during public review and comment. Two meetings with California State Department of Water Resources and Department of Parks and Recreation would be conducted in order to coordinate the revisions to the project description.

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- 1.02 **Inter-agency and Public Meetings.** An inter-agency meeting with the regulatory agencies would be conducted in order to provide a forum for informal comments, discussion of revisions to the project description, and possible issues that may arise during Agency review of a revised environmental document. A separate public meeting would be conducted with the Bethel Island community. The comments will be used to assist in preparing the revised IS/MND.
- 1.03 **Revision of the Environmental Document.** The current environmental document is an Initial Study to comply with CEQA. We assume that all environmental issues can be mitigated through changes in the project design or integration of measures into the project construction to avoid environmental impacts. It is our intent to prepare a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project. No new field data will be collected and environmental impact conclusions will be based on best available information and input received from the resources agencies during the inter-agency meetings. We recognize that raising the island elevations may cause loss of habitat that may need to be mitigated. We have included an allowance for discussing possible mitigation areas if required by the agencies. Design of any additional mitigation is not included in this proposal. We assume that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will use the IS/MND for NEPA and Clean Water Act compliance. This scope does not include preparation of a separate Environmental Assessment or tasks associated with the procurement of a 404 permit.
- 1.04 **Respond to Public Comments in IS/MND.** Fifty copies of the revised document would be circulated for review. Responses to public and agency comments on the IS/MND will be prepared and circulated. We have allocated about 40 hours to address comments. This task also includes one additional inter-agency meeting and one additional public meeting either during or at the end of the comment period prior to filing the final IS/MND. The final IS/MND will be filed after all comments have been addressed.
- 1.05 **Revise Basis of Design.** The document will be revised to incorporate the engineering design criteria associated with the recreational components of the island(s).
- 1.06 **Revise Construction Plans and Technical Specifications – 60%.** After the project revisions have been finalized, the plans will be revised to reflect the changes to the island geometry. Additional geotechnical analyses will be needed in order to address the greater fill heights for stability. Grading plans will be developed for the emergent areas so that the recreational component is incorporated in the design. Access to the islands will also be included in the design.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

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Moffatt & Nichol Engineers will continue to provide the project management for the consultant team.

Attached is an estimate of the effort to complete the above tasks.

If you require additional information or have questions about this proposal, please contact me at (925) 944-5411.

We look forward to continuing the work on this very unique project in the Delta.

Sincerely,

MOFFATT & NICHOL ENGINEERS

Richard M. Rhoads, P.E.
Project Manager

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